

Description of a New Genus and Species of Lucanoid Coleoptera from the interior of Tasmania: by Major F. J. SIDNEY PARRY, F.L.S.

HOPLOGONUS*, Gen. nov.

Habitu fere generis *Lissotes*, at caput depressum, nec convexum; mandibulae porrectae, nec falcatae; in utroque sexu prothorace angulis posticis elytrisque angulis humeralibus spino sub-erecto armatis; oculi minuti.

Hoplogonus Simsoni, n. sp. ♂, ♀ (var. max).

Plate I. figs. 1, 2, 3.

H. niger, nitidus, mandibulis elongatis, robustis, intus edentatis, capite prothoraceque fere longitudine, in medio dente forti armatis; capite transverso, sub-depresso, antice porrecto, lineâ marginali sinuatâ, angulis ante oculos acutis, lateribus in medio obtuse productis; clypeo parvo, conico; clava antennarum ut in gen. *Lissotes*; oculi vix cantho incisi; pronoto capite elytrisque latiori, sub-convexo, prope angulis anticis profunde foveato, medio leviter canaliculato, angulis anticis productis, rotundatis, posticis fortiter obliquis, spino minuto, suberecto armatis, elytris brevibus, subconvexis, late costatis, angulis humeralibus spino acuto, suberecto instructis; scutello parvo; tibiis anticis extus 3-vel 4-dentatis, quatuor posticis in utroque sexu spino acuto armatis.

Long. mandibulae 4 lin., capitis $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin., prothoracis $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin., elytrorum 5 lin.

Hab. Tasmania. Coll. Parry & Fry.

♀ with the body broader, the prothorax narrower, its posterior angles less oblique, the suberect spine considerably more prominent, with but a faint indication of a median line, and the foveae near the anterior angles shallower. The head is small, quadrate, slightly inflated at the sides. The mandibles short, slightly curved towards the apex, internally edentate, emarginate at the base, with a small shining tubercular process in the centre. The elytra exhibit no trace of the smooth elevated ridges

* 'σπλον arina et γωνος angulus.

conspicuous in the male; in both sexes the punctuation of the head and thorax is less diffuse, being considerably deeper on the head, and in the centre of the prothorax is a small cluster of punctate impressions, more conspicuous in the female than in the male.

This remarkable and interesting new insect has been recently discovered in the interior of Tasmania by Augustus Simson, Esq., who, in a letter addressed to Mr. E. W. Janson, expresses the opinion that it is subterraneous in its habits, having been found whilst digging a trench in some mining operations. As the insect has not been dissected I am not in a position to state, whether, as occurs in the genera *Lissapterus* and *Lissotes*, its condition is apterous or not. Five specimens have been received exhibiting a slight variation in the size of the prothoracic spines.

Explanation of Plate I.

- Figs, 1, 2 & 3—*Hoplogonus Simsoni*, Parry, ♂, ♀.
,, 4—*Protetia niveoguttata*, (Chev.), O. E. Janson, ♂.
,, 5—*Eupœcila Miskini*; O. E. Janson, ♀.
,, 6—*Diaphonia notabilis*?, White ♀.
,, 7—*Stenotarsia Scotti*, O. E. Janson.

